



# ROWE

## Franklin County



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## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

Rowe is a small hilltown in northwestern Massachusetts, with a population of 347. The town is one of scenic beauty, with wooded mountains, clear brooks, and the Deerfield River on its border. Rowe is close to ski areas and enjoys great hiking, fishing, hunting and canoeing. Rowe has its own elementary school and tuitions grades 7-12 to Mowhawk Regional District. The Rowe Historical Society maintains an excellent small historical museum, containing antiques, artifacts and numerous photographs documenting the history of the town, including the construction of the Hoosac Tunnel. The close-knit community enjoys a solid tax base provided by a hydro-electric plant.

(Narrative supplied by community)



# GEOGRAPHY

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## Location

Northwestern Massachusetts, bordered by Whitingham, Vermont, on the north; Heath on the east; Charlemont on the south; and Florida and Monroe on the west. Rowe is 27 miles northwest of Greenfield, 45 miles northeast of Pittsfield, and 122 miles northwest of Boston.

**Total Area:** 24.07 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 23.55 sq. miles

**Population:** 378

**Density:** 16 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Cummington Hill Station)

Normal temperature in January.....19.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....67.3°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.0"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Rowe, Heath

## Regional Planning Agency

Franklin County

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)



# GOVERNMENT

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## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 339-5520

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Open Town Meeting

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1785

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	225		
Democrats	40	17.8	%
Republicans	53	23.6	%
Other parties	1	0.4	%
Unenrolled Voters	131	58.2	%

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Rowe town, Franklin County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	351	100.0	<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE</b>		
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>			Total population.....	351	100.0
Male.....	167	47.6	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	4	1.1
Female.....	184	52.4	Mexican.....	3	0.9
Under 5 years.....	19	5.4	Puerto Rican.....	1	0.3
5 to 9 years.....	16	4.6	Cuban.....	-	-
10 to 14 years.....	22	6.3	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	-	-
15 to 19 years.....	18	5.1	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	347	98.9
20 to 24 years.....	9	2.6	White alone.....	347	98.9
25 to 34 years.....	24	6.8	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b>		
35 to 44 years.....	50	14.2	Total population.....	351	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	67	19.1	In households.....	351	100.0
55 to 59 years.....	38	10.8	Householder.....	154	43.9
60 to 64 years.....	22	6.3	Spouse.....	91	25.9
65 to 74 years.....	38	10.8	Child.....	80	22.8
75 to 84 years.....	20	5.7	Own child under 18 years.....	63	17.9
85 years and over.....	8	2.3	Other relatives.....	13	3.7
Median age (years).....	48.4	(X)	Under 18 years.....	5	1.4
18 years and over.....	282	80.3	Nonrelatives.....	13	3.7
Male.....	136	38.7	Unmarried partner.....	8	2.3
Female.....	146	41.6	In group quarters.....	-	-
21 years and over.....	274	78.1	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	84	23.9	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	66	18.8	<b>HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE</b>		
Male.....	30	8.5	Total households.....	154	100.0
Female.....	36	10.3	Family households (families).....	106	68.2
<b>RACE</b>			With own children under 18 years.....	35	22.7
One race.....	351	100.0	Married-couple family.....	91	59.1
White.....	350	99.7	With own children under 18 years.....	30	19.5
Black or African American.....	-	-	Female householder, no husband present.....	9	5.8
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	-	-	With own children under 18 years.....	4	2.6
Asian.....	-	-	Nonfamily households.....	49	31.8
Asian Indian.....	-	-	Householder living alone.....	40	26.0
Chinese.....	-	-	Householder 65 years and over.....	17	11.0
Filipino.....	-	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	39	25.3
Japanese.....	-	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	49	31.8
Korean.....	-	-	Average household size.....	2.28	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.75	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	-	-	<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	209	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	154	73.7
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	55	26.3
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	-	-	occasional use.....	26	12.4
Some other race.....	1	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.5	(X)
Two or more races.....	-	-	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	-	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>		
<i>or more other races: <sup>3</sup></i>			Occupied housing units.....	154	100.0
White.....	350	99.7	Owner-occupied housing units.....	131	85.1
Black or African American.....	-	-	Renter-occupied housing units.....	23	14.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	-	-	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.28	(X)
Asian.....	-	-	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.26	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-			
Some other race.....	1	0.3			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

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**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 0

Conventional Federal: 0

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



# TRANSPORTATION

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## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The major axes of transportation in Franklin County, where Rowe is located, are State Route 2 and Interstate Route 91, which follows the Connecticut River. The region is well-served by rail. The Springfield Terminal Railway lines (the former Boston and Maine Railroad) parallel the two major highways, and the Central Vermont Railway's main line passes N-S through the eastern portion of the county.

### Major Highways

There are no numbered state highways in Rowe. State Route 2, which runs E-W across northern Massachusetts, is easily accessible in the neighboring towns of Charlemont and Florida.

### Rail

There is no passenger service in Rowe, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts is easily accessible. Freight rail service is available from the Springfield Terminal Railway. Contact number: (508) 663-1073

### Bus

Rowe is a member of the Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA) but does not receive services.

### Other

Harriman & West Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located 3 mi. W of North Adams, has a 4,300'x 100' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: None.



# CULTURE AND RECREATION

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## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

## MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

The Kemp-McCarthy Memorial, Museum of the Rowe Historical Society  
Zoar Road  
(413) 339-4238

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



# MISCELLANEOUS

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## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

None

### Long Term Care

None

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

None

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)



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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.